List of official languages by country and territory

This is a **list of official languages by country and territory**. It includes all languages that have official language status either statewide or in a part of the state, or that have status as a national language, regional language, or minority language.

Definitions

Official language

A language designated as having a unique legal status in the state: typically, the language used in a nation's legislative bodies, and often, official government business.

Regional language

A language designated as having official status limited to a specific area, administrative division, or territory of the state. (On this page a regional language has parentheses next to it that contain a region, province, etc. where the language has regional status.)

National language

A language that uniquely represents the national identity of a state, nation, and/or country and is so designated by a country's government; some are technically minority languages. (On this page a national language is followed by parentheses that identify it as a national language status.) Some countries have more than one language with this status.

List

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
Abkhazia[a]	2	• Abkhaz • Russian		Georgian	Abkhaz	
Afghanistan[1][2][3]	2	• Persian (Dari) • Pashto	• Uzbek[b] • Turkmen[b] • Pashayi[b] • Nuristani[b] • Balochi[b] • Pamiri[b]		• Persian (Dari) • Pashto	• Persian (Dari)
Albania[4]	1	Albanian		• Greek • Macedonian • Aromanian		Italian
Algeria[5]	2	• Arabic • Berber			• Arabic • Berber	French
Andorra	1	Catalan[6]		• Spanish • French • Portuguese		
Angola[7]	1	Portuguese			• Kimbundu • Umbundu • Kikongo • Chokwe • Kwanyama • Ganguela	• Angolan Portuguese
Antigua and Barbuda	1	None (English has *de facto* status)				• Antiguan and Barbudan Creole
Argentina	1	None (Spanish has de facto status)	• Spanish (in Corrientes and Chaco)[8][9] • Guaraní (in Corrientes)[8] • Kom (in Chaco)[9]			• Argentine Spanish • English • Italian • German • French

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
			• Moquoit (in Chaco)[9] • Wichi (in Chaco)[9]			
Armenia	1	Armenian			Armenian (state language)[10]	Russian
Australia	1	None (English has de facto status)	• English (on Norfolk Island) • Norfuk (on Norfolk Island)			
Austria[11][12]	1	German	• Burgenland Croatian (parts of Burgenland) • Hungarian (parts of Burgenland) • Slovene (parts of Carinthia)	• Slovene • Czech • Hungarian • Slovak • Romani • Serbian	German (state language)	English
Azerbaijan	1	Azerbaijani			Azerbaijani (state language)[13]	Russian
Bahamas	1	English				
Bahrain	1	Arabic		English		
Bangladesh	1	Bengali	• Sylheti (parts of Sylhet Division) • Chittagonian (parts of Chittagong Division) • Rangpuri/Kamtapuri (parts of Rangpur Division)	• Chakma • Marma • Rakhine • Hajong • Santali • Tripuri • Manipuri	Bengali	
Barbados	1	English				
Belarus	2	• Belarusian • Russian			Belarusian	
Belgium	3	• Dutch • French • German	• Dutch (Flanders, Brussels)[14] • French (Brussels, Wallonia)[14]			English

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
			• German (German-speaking community)[14]			
Belize	1	English		Garifuna		• Kriol (lingua franca) • Spanish (border with Mexico and Guatemala)
Benin	1	French				
Bhutan	1	Dzongkha				
Bolivia[15]	37	1. Castilian (Spanish) 2. Aymara 3. Araona 4. Baure 5. Bésiro (Chiquitano) 6. Canichana 7. Cavineña 8. Cayubaba 9. Chácobo 10. Chimán 11. Ese Ejja 12. Guaraní 13. Guarasu'we 14. Guarayu 15. Itonama 16. Leco 17. Machajuyai-Kallawaya 18. Machineri 19. Maropa 20. Mojeño-Ignaciano				

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
		21. Mojeño-Trinitario 22. Moré 23. Mosetén 24. Movima 25. Pacawara 26. Puquina 27. Quechua 28. Sirionó 29. Tacana 30. Tapieté 31. Toromona 32. Uru-Chipaya 33. Weenhayek 34. Yaminawa 35. Yuki 36. Yuracaré 37. Zamuco				
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3	None (Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian all have de facto status)[16]				
Botswana	1	English			Tswana	• Other Bantu languages • Several Khoisan languages
Brazil	1	Portuguese[17]	• German (in Pomerode[18]) • East Pomeranian (in Pancas,[19][20] Santa Maria de Jetibá,[21][22] Domingos Martins,[23] Itarana,[24][25]	Eighty Brazilian municipalities have co-official languages.[44] The list can be seen at Languages of Brazil.	Portuguese	• Spanish • English • French

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
			Laranja da Terra,[23] Vila Pavão[23] and Canguçu[23]) • Riograndenser Hunsrückisch (in Antônio Carlos, Santa Catarina,[26] and in Santa Maria do Herval, Rio Grande do Sul[27][28][29][30]) • Talian (in Bento Gonçalves,[31][32][33] Caxias do Sul,[34] Flores da Cunha[35][36][37] Nova Roma do Sul[38][39] and Serafina Corréa[40]) • Nheengatu, Baniwa, Tucano (in São Gabriel de Cachoeira, Amazonas)[41][42] • Guaraní (in Tacuru, Mato Grosso do Sul)[43]			
Brunei	1	Malay				• English • Chinese
Bulgaria	1	Bulgarian				
Burkina Faso	4	• Mooré • Bissa • Dyula • Fula			Working languages: • English • French	
Burundi[45][46]	3	• French • Kirundi • English			Kirundi	Swahili
Cambodia	1	Khmer				• French • English

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
						• Chinese
Cameroon	2	• English • French				
Canada	2	• English (Federal) • French (Federal)	• Chipewyan (Northwest Territories) • Cree (Northwest Territories) • Gwich'in (Northwest Territories) • Inuinnaqtun (Northwest Territories and Nunavut) • Inuktitut (Northwest Territories and Nunavut) • Inuvialuktun (Northwest Territories) • Mi'kmaq (Nova Scotia) • North Slavey (Northwest Territories) • South Slavey (Northwest Territories) • Tłı̨chǫ (Northwest Territories)	• Chipewyan • Cree • Gwich'in • Inuinnaqtun • Inuktitut • Inuvialuktun • Mi'kmaq • North Slavey • South Slavey • Tłı̨chǫ		
Cape Verde	1	Portuguese			Cape Verdean Creole	
Central African Republic	2	• French • Sango				
Chad	2	• Arabic • French				
Chile	1	Spanish	Languages of ethnic groups are			

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
			official in their territories[47]			
China	1	Standard Chinese	• English (Hong Kong) • Portuguese (Macau)	• Mongolian • Uyghur • Tibetan • Zhuang • Kazakh • Korean		Other Sinitic languages
Christmas Island	3	• English • Mandarin Chinese • Malay				
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	2	• English • Cocos Malay				Malay
Colombia	1	Spanish	Languages of ethnic groups are official in their territories[48]			
Comoros	3	• Arabic • Comorian • French				
Democratic Republic of the Congo	1	French		• Lingala • Kikongo	• Swahili • Tshiluba	
Republic of the Congo	1	French		• Lingala • Munukutuba		
Cook Islands	2	• English • Cook Islands Māori				
Costa Rica	1	Spanish		• Indigenous languages[49] • Limonese Creole[50]		
Croatia	1	Croatian	• Serbian • Hungarian • Czech		• Italian (Istria County) • Romani (non-	English

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
			• Slovak • Pannonian Rusyn		territorial) • Slovene (non-territorial)	
Cuba	1	Spanish				
Cyprus	2	• Greek[51] • Turkish[51]			• Armenian[52] • Cypriot Arabic[52]	English
Czech Republic	2	• Czech[c]		• Belarusian[d] • Bulgarian[d] • Croatian[d] • German[d] • Greek[d] • Hungarian[d] • Polish[d] • Romani[d] • Russian[d] • Rusyn[d] • Serbian[d] • Ukrainian[d] • Vietnamese[d]	Czech	
Denmark	1	Danish	• Faroese (in the Faroe Islands) • Kalaallisut (in Greenland)	German (in Southern Jutland)		English
Djibouti	2	• Arabic • French				
Dominica	1	English				
Dominican Republic	1	Spanish				
East Timor	2	• Portuguese[53] • Tetum[53]		• Indonesian		
Ecuador[54]	1	• Spanish	Languages of ethnic groups are official in their territories	• Spanish[e] • Kichwa[e] • Shuar[e]		

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
Egypt	1	Arabic		Coptic	Egyptian Arabic	English
El Salvador	1	Spanish				
Equatorial Guinea	3	• French • Portuguese • Spanish				
Eritrea	1	Tigrinya				• Arabic • Italian
Estonia	1	Estonian				• English • Russian
Eswatini	2	• English • Swazi				
Ethiopia	5	• Afar • Amharic • Oromo • Somali • Tigrinya			• Afar • Amharic • Benshangul • Gumuz • Harari • Kunama • Oromo • Sidamo • Somali • Tigrinya	
Fiji	3	• English • Fijian • Fiji Hindi				
Finland	2	• Finnish • Swedish		Sami (in Enontekiö, Inari, Sodankylä, Utsjoki)	• Finnish • Swedish	English
France	1	French[55]		• Corsican language • Basque language • Breton language		Occitan language
Gabon	1	French				

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
The Gambia	1	English				• Wolof • Mandinka • Pulaar • Soninke • Jola • Serer • Mandjak • Bainuk • Kiriol
Georgia	1	Georgian				Russian
Germany	1	German[56]	• Danish (in Schleswig-Holstein) • Lower Sorbian (in Brandenburg) • North Frisian (in Schleswig-Holstein) • Saterland Frisian (in Lower Saxony) • Upper Sorbian (in Saxony) • German Sign Language • Low German	• Danish • Lower Sorbian • North Frisian • Romani[57] • Upper Sorbian		English
Ghana	1	English	• Fante • Asante Twi • Akuapem Twi • Adangme (in Greater Accra) • Dagaare (in the Upper West Region) • Dagbani (in the Northern Region) • Ewe (in the Volta Region)			

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
			• Ga (in Greater Accra) • Gonja (in the Northern Region) • Kasem (in the Upper East Region) • Nzema (in the Western Region)			
Greece	1	Greek				
Grenada	1	English				
Guatemala	1	Spanish			• Garifuna • Maya • Xinca	
Guinea	1	French				• Fula • Maninka • Susu
Guinea-Bissau	1	Portuguese				
Guyana	1	English				Guyanese Creole
Haiti	2	• French • Haitian Creole				
Honduras	1	Spanish				
Hong Kong	3	• Cantonese • English • Mandarin				
Hungary	1	Hungarian[58]		• Croatian[59] • German[59] • Romanian[59] • Serbian[59] • Slovak[59] • Slovene[59]		
Iceland	2	• Icelandic • Icelandic Sign Language[60]				

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
India	2	• Hindi • English		22 official languages:[61] • Assamese • Bengali • Bodo • Dogri • Gujarati • Hindi • Kannada • Kashmiri • Konkani • Maithili • Malayalam • Meitei (Manipuri) • Marathi • Nepali • Odia (Oriya), • Punjabi • Sanskrit • Santali • Sindhi • Tamil • Telugu • Urdu	• see Languages of India	
Indonesia	1	Indonesian	• Javanese (in Yogyakarta)		Indonesian	• Indonesian • Malay • Javanese • Sundanese • Batak • Minangkabau

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
						• 700 more languages in Indonesia
Iran	1	Persian		• Azerbaijani • Kurdish • Luri • Gilaki • Mazanderani • Balochi • Arabic • Qashqai • Tati • Turkmeni	Persian	
Iraq	2	• Arabic • Kurdish[62]	• Armenian recognized • Assyrian Neo-Aramaic (in Assyrian areas) • Iraqi Turkmen (in Turkmen areas)			
Ireland[63]	2	• Irish • English			Irish	
Israel	1	Hebrew	Arabic	English		• Russian • English
Italy	1	Italian	• French (in Aosta Valley) • Franco-Provençal (in Aosta Valley) • German (in South Tyrol) • Ladin (in South Tyrol) • Friulian (in Friuli-Venezia Giulia) • Sardinian (in Sardinia)	• Catalan (in Sardinia) • Slovene (in Friuli-Venezia Giulia) • Occitan (in Piedmont's Occitan valleys) • Albanian (in Sicily and Calabria)		Other Italo-Dalmatian languages

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
			• Corsican (in northern Sardinia) •	• Greek (in Calabria and Puglia)		
Ivory Coast	1	French				
Jamaica	1	English	Jamaican Patois		Jamaican Patois	Jamaican Patois
Japan	1	None (Japanese has de facto status)			Japanese	
Jordan	1	Arabic		• Circassian • Chechen • Armenian		
Kazakhstan	2	• Kazakh • Russian			Kazakh	
Kenya	2	• English • Swahili			Swahili	
Kiribati	2	• English • Gilbertese				
North Korea	1	Korean				
South Korea	2	• Korean • Korean Sign Language				
Kosovo[a]	2	• Albanian • Serbian	Turkish		• Albanian (nationwide) • Serbian (Northern Kosovo)	
Kuwait	1	Arabic			• Kuwaiti Sign Language • Kuwaiti Arabic • Kuwaiti Persian	
Kyrgyzstan	2	• Kyrgyz • Russian			Kyrgyz	
Laos	1	Lao				
Latvia	1	Latvian[64][65]				Russian

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
Lebanon	1	Arabic	Arabic	Armenian	• Arabic • English • French	• Arabic • English • French
Lesotho	2	• Sesotho • English			Sotho	
Liberia	1	English				
Libya	1	Arabic				
Liechtenstein	1	German				
Lithuania	1	Lithuanian				• Polish • Russian
Luxembourg	3	• French • German • Luxembourgish			Luxembourgish	• English • Portuguese
Macau	2	• Cantonese • Portuguese				
Madagascar	2	• French • Malagasy			Malagasy	
Malawi	2	• English			Chichewa	
Malaysia	1	Malay[f]	Regional/State dialects		Malay	• Malay • Mandarin Chinese • Cantonese • Tamil • English
Maldives	1	Dhivehi			Dhivehi	English
Mali	13	1. Bambara 2. Bobo 3. Bozo 4. Dogon 5. Fula 6. Hassaniya 7. Kassonke 8. Maninke		French		

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
		9. Minyanka 10. Senufo 11. Songhay languages 12. Soninke 13. Tamasheq				
Malta	2	• Maltese • English			Maltese	
Sovereign Military Order of Malta[a]	1	Italian				
Marshall Islands	2	• English • Marshallese				
Mauritania	1	Arabic			• Arabic • Fula • Soninke • Wolof	French
Mauritius	2	None (English has de jure status and French has de facto status)		English		
Mexico	1	None (Spanish has de facto status)			68 National languages	
Federated States of Micronesia	1	English	• Chuukese (in Chuuk State) • Kosraean (in Kosrae State) • Pohnpeian (in Pohnpei State) • Yapese (in Yap State)			
Moldova	1	Romanian	• Gagauz • Russian • Ukrainian			
Monaco[67]	1	French				Monégasque

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Mongolia	1	Mongolian				
Montenegro	1	Montenegrin				
Morocco	2	• Arabic • Berber			• Arabic • Berber	French
Mozambique	1	Portuguese				
Myanmar (Burma)	1	Burmese	• Chin • Kachin • Karen • Karenni • Mon • Rakhine • Shan			English
Namibia[68]	1	English	• German • Oshiwambo		Afrikaans	
Nauru	2	• English • Nauruan				
Nepal	1	Nepali[69]			All languages spoken as the mother tongue in Nepal[70]	
Netherlands	1	Dutch	• Frisian (in the province of Friesland) • English (in Sint Maarten, Sint Eustatius, Saba) • Papiamento (in Aruba, Curaçao, Bonaire)	• Dutch Low Saxon • Dutch Sign Language • Limburgish • Sinte Romani • Yiddish		English
New Zealand	3	• Māori language • New Zealand Sign Language • (English has de facto status)				
Nicaragua	1	Spanish	In Autonomous Regions:			

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
			• Creole • Garifuna • Mayangna • Miskito • Rama • Sumo			
Niger	1	Hausa			• Arabic • French • Fulfulde • Gulmancema • Kanuri • Zarma • Tamazight	
Nigeria	1	English			• Hausa • Yoruba • Igbo	• English • Hausa
Niue	2	• English • Niuean				
Norfolk Island	2	• English • Norfuk[71]				
North Macedonia	2	• Macedonian • Albanian[72]				
Northern Cyprus[a]	1	Turkish				
Norway	2	• Norwegian • Sami languages[73]	• Northern Sami • Lule Sami • Southern Sámi • Kven	• Kven • Scandoromani	• Bokmål (written) • Nynorsk (written)	English
Oman	1	Arabic		Shehri		
Pakistan	2	• Urdu • English	• Sindhi		Urdu	• Punjabi • Balochi • Sindhi • Pashto

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
						• Saraiki
Palau	2	• English • Palauan	• Sonsorolese (in Sonsorol) • Tobian (in Hatohobei) • Japanese (in Angaur)			
Palestine	1	Arabic				• English • Hebrew
Panama	1	Spanish				
Papua New Guinea	4	• English • Hiri Motu • PNG Sign Language • Tok Pisin				
Paraguay	2	• Spanish • Guaraní				
Peru	1	Spanish	Quechua, Aymara and another native languages are official wherever they predominate.			
Philippines	2	• Filipino • English	• Aklanon (in the Visayas) • Bikol (in Luzon) • Cebuano (in the Visayas and Mindanao) • Chavacano (in Mindanao) • Hiligaynon (in the Visayas) • Ibanag (in Luzon) • Ilocano (in Luzon, official in La Union[74]) • Ivatan (in Luzon)	Arabic[g] (optional language) Spanish[g] (optional language) (+ over 100 more minority languages)	• Filipino • Filipino Sign Language (national sign language)	

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
			• Kapampangan (in Luzon) • Kinaray-a (in the Visayas) • Maguindanao (in Mindanao) • Maranao (in Mindanao) • Pangasinan (in Luzon) • Sambal (in Luzon) • Tagalog (in Luzon) • Tausug (in Mindanao) • Waray (in the Visayas) • Yakan (in Mindanao)			
Poland	1	Polish	• Kashubian (Pomeranian Voivodeship) • German (Opole Voivodeship) • Lithuanian (Puńsk commune) • Belarusian (Podlaskie Voivodseship)	• Lemko • Karaim • Tatar • Ukrainian		English
Portugal	1	Portuguese	Mirandese (Terra de Miranda)			English
Qatar	1	Arabic				
Romania	1	Romanian		• Armenian • German • Hungarian • Romani • Russian • Serbian		

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
				• Slovak • Tatar • Turkish • Ukrainian		
Russia	1	Russian	(33 languages)			
Rwanda	4	• English • French • Kinyarwanda • Swahili				
Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic[a]	2	• Arabic • Spanish			Arabic	
Saint Kitts and Nevis	1	English				
Saint Lucia	1	English				
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	1	English				
Samoa	2	• English • Samoan				
San Marino	1	Italian				
São Tomé and Príncipe	1	Portuguese				
Saudi Arabia	1	Arabic		• Faifi • Razihi • Mehri		• Indian Languages • Filipino • Bengali
Senegal	1	French			• Jola-Fogny • Mandinka • Pulaar • Serer • Soninke • Wolof	
Serbia	1	Serbian		(15 languages)		
Seychelles	3	• English				

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
		• French • Seychellois Creole				
Sierra Leone	1	English			Krio	
Singapore	4	• English • Malay • Mandarin Chinese • Tamil			Malay	
Slovakia	1	Slovak		• Bulgarian • Czech • German • Hungarian • Polish • Romani • Rusyn • Serbian • Ukrainian		
Slovenia	1	Slovene		• Hungarian (Dobrovnik, Hodoš, Lendava) • Italian (Izola, Koper, Piran) • Croatian (Metlika, Brežice)		
Solomon Islands	1	• English				
Somalia	2	Somali, Arabic				
Somaliland[a]	3	• Arabic • English • Somali				
South Africa	12	1. Afrikaans 2. English				

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
		3. Southern Ndebele 4. Sotho 5. Northern Sotho 6. Swazi 7. Tsonga 8. Tswana 9. Venda 10. Xhosa 11. Zulu 12. SA Sign Language[76]				
South Ossetia[a]	2	• Ossetian • Russian	Georgian	Georgian		
South Sudan	1	English			• Bari • Dinka • Luo • Murle • Nuer • Zande • (60 other languages)	
Spain	1	Spanish	• Catalan (Balearic Islands, Catalonia, Valencian Community) • Galician (Galicia) • Occitan (Catalonia) • Basque (Basque Country, Navarra)	• Astur-Leonese (Asturias, León, Zamora, Salamanca, Cáceres) • Aragonese (Aragon) • Fala (Province of Cáceres) • Portuguese • Galician (Asturias, León, Zamora)		

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
				• Catalan (Aragon, Carche (Murcia))		
Sri Lanka	2	• Sinhala • Tamil				English
Sudan	2	• Arabic • English				
Suriname	1	Dutch			Sranan Tongo	
Sweden	1	Swedish		• Finnish (Gällivare, Haparanda, Kiruna, Pajala, Övertorneå) • Meänkieli (Gällivare, Haparanda, Kiruna, Pajala, Övertorneå) • Sami (Arjeplog, Gällivare, Jokkmokk, Kiruna) • Yiddish • Romani		English
Switzerland	4	• French (Bern, Fribourg, Geneva, Jura, Neuchâtel, Valais, Vaud) • German (Aargau, Appenzell Ausserrhoden, Appenzell Innerrhoden, Basel-Landschaft, Basel-Stadt, Bern, Fribourg, Glarus,				

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
		Graubünden, Lucerne, Nidwalden, Obwalden, Saint Gallen, Schaffhausen, Schwyz, Solothurn, Thurgau, Uri, Valais, Zug, Zürich) • Italian (Ticino, Graubünden) • Romansh (Graubünden)				
Syria	1	Arabic	Kurdish	• Assyrian • Western Neo-Aramaic • Armenian		
Taiwan	1	None (Mandarin Chinese has de facto status)			• Taiwanese Mandarin[h] • Taiwanese Hokkien[h] • Taiwanese Hakka[77] • Formosan languages[78] • Taiwan Sign Language • Matsu dialect • Wuqiu dialect	
Tajikistan	1	Tajik			Tajik	Russian
Tanzania	2	• Swahili • English			Swahili	
Thailand	1	Thai	• Central Thai • Isan • Northern Thai	Sixty-two 'domestic' languages are		Burmese

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
			• Southern Thai	officially recognized		
Togo	1	French				
Tokelau	2	• English • Tokelauan				
Tonga	2	• English • Tongan				
Transnistria[a]	3	• Moldovan • Russian • Ukrainian				
Trinidad and Tobago	1	English				Trinidadian Creole
Tunisia	1	Arabic			Arabic	
Turkey	1	Turkish		Kurdish	Turkish	
Turkmenistan	1	Turkmen			Turkmen	Russian
Tuvalu	2	• Tuvaluan • English			• Tuvaluan • English	
Uganda	2	• English • Swahili[79]				
Ukraine	1	Ukrainian	• Russian (Autonomous Republic of Crimea) • Crimean Tatar (Autonomous Republic of Crimea)			
United Arab Emirates	1	Arabic				English
United Kingdom and Crown dependencies etc.	1	None (English has de facto status)	• Irish and Ulster-Scots (in Northern Ireland) • Scots and Scottish Gaelic (in Scotland) • Welsh (in Wales) • Pitcairnese (in Pitcairn Islands)			

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
			• Guernésiais and French (in Guernsey) • Jèrriais and French (in Jersey) • Manx (in Isle of Man)			
United States	1	None (English has de facto status) [i]	(28 languages)	indigenous languages of recognized federal tribes	• English	
Uruguay	2	• Uruguayan Sign Language (Spanish has de facto status)				
Uzbekistan	1	Uzbek		• Uzbek • Karakalpak and Uzbek in Karakalpakstan		Russian
Vanuatu	3	• English • French • Bislama				
Vatican City	2	• Italian • Latin				Swiss German
Venezuela	2	• Spanish		Native languages are official for indigenous peoples		
Vietnam	1	Vietnamese		• Cantonese • Cham • Hmong • Khmer • Lao • Muong • Rade	Vietnamese	

Country/Region	Number of official (including de facto)	Official language(s)	Regional language(s)	Minority language(s)	National language(s)	Widely spoken
				• Tay • Thai • Vietnamese sign languages		
Yemen	1	Arabic		• Mehri • Soqotri		
Zambia	1	English				
Zimbabwe	16	1. Chewa 2. Chibarwe 3. English 4. Kalanga 5. Khoisan[j][81] 6. Nambya 7. Ndau 8. Ndebele 9. Shangani 10. Shona 11. Sign language[k] 12. Sotho 13. Tonga 14. Tswana 15. Venda 16. Xhosa				

List of languages by number of countries in which they are the official language

This is a ranking of languages by number of sovereign countries in which they are *de jure* or *de facto* official, although there are no precise inclusion criteria or definition of a language. An '*' (asterisk) indicates a country whose independence is disputed.

Partially recognized or *de facto* independent countries are denoted by an asterisk (*)

Language	World	Africa	Americas	Asia	Europe	Oceania	Countries
English	58	23	14	4	3	14	United States,[l] United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, South Africa, India, Nigeria *(See the full list)*[82]
French	32	24	2	–	5	1	France, Canada, Belgium, Switzerland, Madagascar, Monaco, Haiti, Vanuatu *(See the full list)*[83]
Arabic	23–26*	12–14*	–	11–12*	–	–	Egypt, Sudan, Algeria, Iraq, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Palestine* *(See the full list)*
Spanish	20	1	18	–	1		Spain, Colombia, Argentina, Mexico *(See the full list)*[84]
Portuguese	9	6	1	1	1	–	Portugal, Brazil, Mozambique, Angola, East Timor *(See the full list)*
German	6	–	–	–	6	–	Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Liechtenstein *(See the full list)*
Russian	5–8*	–	–	3	2–5*	–	Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Abkhazia*, South Ossetia*, Transnistria*. *(See the full list)*
Swahili	5	5	–	–	–	–	Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda
Serbo-Croatian	4–5*	–	–	–	4–5*	–	Serbia (known as Serbian), Croatia (known as Croatian), Montenegro (known as Montenegrin), Bosnia and Herzegovina (known as Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian), Kosovo* (known as Serbian)
Italian	4	–	–	–	4	–	Italy, Switzerland, San Marino, Vatican City
Malay	4	–	–	4	–	–	Malaysia, Indonesia (known as Indonesian), Singapore, Brunei
Dutch	3	–	1	–	2	–	Netherlands, Belgium, Suriname
Persian	3	–	–	3	–	–	Iran, Afghanistan (known as Dari), Tajikistan (known as Tajik)
Sotho	3	3	–	–	–	–	South Africa, Lesotho, Zimbabwe
Tamil	2	–	–	2	–	–	Sri Lanka, Singapore
Tswana	3	3	–	–	–	–	Botswana, South Africa, Zimbabwe
Albanian	2–3*	–	–	–	2–3*	–	Albania, Kosovo*, North Macedonia
Standard Chinese	2–3*	–	–	2–3*	–	–	China, Singapore, Taiwan*
Romanian	2–3*	–	–	–	2-3*	–	Romania, Moldova, Transnistria*
Somali	2–3*	2–3*	–	–	–	–	Somalia, Ethiopia, and Somaliland*
Turkish	2–3*	–	–	–	2–3*	–	Turkey, Northern Cyprus* and Cyprus
Aymara	2	–	2	–	–	–	Bolivia and Peru
Berber	2	2	–	–	–	–	Algeria and Morocco
Chichewa	2	2	–	–	–	–	Malawi and Zimbabwe

Language	World	Africa	Americas	Asia	Europe	Oceania	Countries
Greek	2	–	–	–	2	–	Greece and Cyprus
Guarani	2	–	2	–	–	–	Paraguay and Bolivia
Hindi	2	–	–	2	–	–	(Delhi, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh) India, Fiji
Quechua	2	–	2	–	–	–	Bolivia and Peru
Korean	2	–	–	2	–	–	North Korea and South Korea
Kurdish	2	-	-	2	-	-	Iraq and Armenia
Rwanda-Rundi	2	2	–	–	–	–	Burundi (known as Kirundi) & Rwanda (known as Kinyarwanda)
Swati	2	2	–	–	–	–	Eswatini (Swaziland) and South Africa
Swedish	2	–	–	–	2	–	Sweden and Finland
Tigrinya	2	2	–	–	–	–	Eritrea and Ethiopia
Venda	2	2	–	–	–	–	South Africa and Zimbabwe
Bengali	2	2	–	–	–	–	India (West Bengal, Tripura, Assam) and Bangladesh

Notes

a. Independence disputed.

b. The third official language – in addition to Pashto and Dari – in areas where the majority speaks them

c. Slovak language is defined as official language together with Czech language by several laws – e.g. law 500/2004, 337/1992. Source: http://portal.gov.cz . Cited: "Například Správní řád (zákon č. 500/2004 Sb.) stanovuje: "V řízení se jedná a písemnosti se vyhotovují v českém jazyce. Účastníci řízení mohou jednat a písemnosti mohou být předkládány i v jazyce slovenském..." (§16, odstavec 1). Zákon o správě daní a poplatků (337/1992 Sb.) "Úřední jazyk: Před správcem daně se jedná v jazyce českém nebo slovenském. Veškerá písemná podání se předkládají v češtině nebo slovenštině..." (§ 3, odstavec 1). http://portal.gov.cz

d. Citizens belonging to minorities, which traditionally and on long-term basis live within the territory of the Czech Republic, enjoy the right to use their language in communication with authorities and in front of the courts of law (for the list of recognized minorities see National Minorities Policy of the Government of the Czech Republic (http://www.vlada.cz/en/pracovni-a-poradni-organy-vlady/rnm/historie-a-soucasnost-rady-en-16666/)). The article 25 of the Czech Charter of Fundamental Rights and Basic Freedoms ensures right of the national and ethnic minorities for education and communication with authorities in their own language. Act No. 500/2004 Coll. (*The Administrative Rule*) in its paragraph 16 (4) (*Procedural Language*) ensures, that a citizen of the Czech Republic, who belongs to a national or an ethnic minority, which traditionally and on long-term basis lives within the territory of the Czech Republic, have right to address an administrative agency and proceed before it in the language of the minority. In case that the administrative agency doesn't have an employee with knowledge of the language, the agency is bound to obtain a translator at the agency's own expense. According to Act No. 273/2001 (*About The Rights of Members of Minorities*) paragraph 9 (*The right to use language of a national minority in dealing with authorities and in front of the courts of law*) the same applies for the members of national minorities also in front of the courts of law.

e. Official language for intercultural relations

f. Article 152 of the Constitution of Malaysia designated Malay as the national language. Section 2 of that article allowed English to be used officially until otherwise provided by Parliament. In 1967, the Parliament of Malaysia passed the National Language Act (http://www.agc.gov.my/agc/Akta/Vol.%201/Act%2032.pdf) , making Malay the official language of Malaysia. The act does, however, allow the use of English for some official purposes. On 11 July 1990, following the amendment of the National Language Act 1963/67 (Act 32) (Revised in 1971), Malay replaced English as the official language of the courts in West Malaysia. The amending Act provided English to be used in the Courts in West Malaysia where it deems necessary in the interest of Justice. East Malaysia continued using English as the official language in their courts.[66] Since 2007, the official policy is to refer to the national language as the Malaysian language (*Bahasa Malaysia*), although legislation still refers to the Malay language (*Bahasa Melayu*).

g. As per the 1987 Constitution which states "Spanish and Arabic shall be promoted on a voluntary and optional basis".[75]

h. Not designated but meets legal definition

i. In the United States of America, English is the language of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States and is the working language of the federal government. It was first declared the official language by Executive Order 14224 in 2025.[80] Some states - such as Arizona, California, Florida, New Mexico, and Texas - provide official documents in both Spanish and English. Attempts to designate English as the official language of the federal government of the United States by act of Congress have not succeeded. See also Languages of the United States.

j. Refers to the Tjwao dialect

k. See Zimbabwean sign languages

l. In the United States of America, English is the language of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States and is the working language of the federal government. It was first declared the official language by Executive Order 14224 in 2025.[80] Some states - such as Arizona, California, Florida, New Mexico, and Texas - provide official documents in both Spanish and English. Attempts to designate English as the official language of the federal government of the United States by act of Congress have not succeeded. See also Languages of the United States.

See also

- List of official languages
- Linguistic demography
- Lists of countries and territories by official language
- Lists of endangered languages
- Lists of languages
- List of languages by number of native speakers
- List of languages by total number of speakers
- World language
- Languages used on the Internet

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External links

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